

# MISSOURI SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL

*Advising the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on  
Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*

**Chair**

Deana O'Brien

**Vice Chair**

Pam Walls

**Secretary**

Eileen Huth

To Whom It May Concern:

This annual report of the Missouri Special Education Advisory Panel is respectfully submitted for public review. This past year has been an exciting period with new challenges and thoughtful consideration. The Panel engaged in a number of tasks this past fiscal year including acting as steering committee for the Continuous Improvement Monitoring Process (CIMP), reviewing performance indicators for the State Performance Plan (SPP), recommendations for a Child Complaint Review, and bylaw amendments.

The Advisory Panel is composed of a wide variety of stakeholders from throughout the state of Missouri. The role of the Panel is to serve in partnership with DESE in an advisory capacity to review programs and activities of Missouri's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) Division of Special Education. The Panel often requests data or additional information in order to develop recommendations to submit for consideration by DESE. The goal of this collaborative effort is providing Missouri's students in special education the opportunity to succeed in their academic careers and planning for adult life.

The Panel wishes to thank DESE staff for their support and assistance during this very busy year including Pam Williams, Coordinator for Special Education Services; Debby Parsons, past Coordinator for Special Education Services; and, Lina Browner, Executive Assistant for the Division of Special Education.

Advisory Panel meetings are open to the public and we want to strongly encourage participation by any and all individuals who are concerned about special education in Missouri.

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Sincerely,

Deana O'Brien  
Chairperson